

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Eliza Symonds Bell, September 22, 1876, with transcript

Letter from Miss Mabel Hubbard to Mrs. Alexander Melville Bell Cambridge, September 22, 1876 My dear Mrs. Bell:

I wrote to you twice last night, congratulating you on your birthday and wishing you many happy returns of the day, but I was very tired and the letters miscarried. Still the mail has not gone and it is not too late to send you my love and best wishes, and to tell you how anxious I am that before next September I may have a chance to see you, not only for Alec's sake, but your own also. I have heard so much of you and seen so many lovely letters of yours I feel as if I only needed to see you to love you very much.

Meanwhile anything that gives me a more distinct idea of you is welcome and I thank you for telling me in your pleasant letter received the otherday, of yourself. I am sorry if you feel aggrieved at Alec's "running you down" but I hardly wonder he thinks you so little when five feet one hardly seems very tall to me from the height of five ft. five.

Thank you very much for your kind invitation to my sister and Papa, but I am afraid they will find Brantford too far out of their way, however much they might like to go there. Alec had no authority for telling you to expect them.

We are very busy at home trying to prepare the house for its winter occupants. We intend to leave about the middle of next month Grandma and Grandpa and two cousins are still with us, but they leave very soon.

Alec I suppose has told you that the name in my last letter which you could not decipher was Mr. Watson's. It would be very nice if Alec really had a lady to look after his professional affairs but this arrangement with Mr. Watson does nearly as well, giving him

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more time to attend to them himself. Alec is feeling very much encouraged abut ou t his telegraph and is consequently very bright. I have however not seen him since Wednesday.

With love to you and Mr. Bell

Affectionately Mabel